

July 9, 2007

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Glenda Wiles, Administrative Assistant  
Ravalli County Commissioners Office  
215 S. 4th Street  
Hamilton, Montana 59840

**JUL 10 2007**

**Ravalli County Commissioners**

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Dear County Commissioners,

I am writing to strongly oppose the re-opening of the proposed Lost Horse Rock Quarry. As a resident of Lost Horse Road I believe safety is a major factor in this proposed Rock quarry issue.

Pulling out onto highway 93 from lost horse road is scary in a car. You are pulling out on top of a blind hill and you have such a short visual of the cars coming and going. To have a dump truck with pup trailer entering the traffic going 65+ miles an hour is an extreme hazard to the dump trailer and to the highway traffic. I also believe that having 18-30 double dump trucks hauling gravel up and down lost horse road will have a huge effect on safety and the "quality of life" to the residents and also tourists who use this main recreation hot spot.

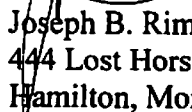
The blind corners on the gravel section of lost horse road are another major factor. They would have to be widened and repaired and these costs have not been factored into the cost of the gravel itself. You also will be hauling and then dumping the gravel to a designated spot, then re-hauled at a later time which will also add to the cost.

I believe there are other cost effective ways by finding a more suitable rock quarry in the valley that doesn't require major alteration of one of our most scenic rural roads.

It does not make ANY sense to haul gravel to a spot then dump and then re-haul at a later time, repair the asphalt section on a yearly basis, widen roads and also not to mention damaging the only canyon that you can drive up in the Bitterroot Valley from the West Fork to Lolo. Once you put an industrial site at the mouth of the most scenic canyon our valley has to offer, the damage has been done and we can never go back.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond.

Sincerely,

  
Joseph B. Rimensberger  
444 Lost Horse Rd  
Hamilton, Montana 59840